

**Security Council**

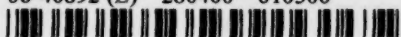
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Identical letters dated 26 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I wish to transmit herewith a letter dated 25 April 2000 from Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning armed acts of aggression carried out by United States naval forces inside Iraqi territorial waters, calling for a halt to these acts of aggression and affirming that Iraq reserves the right to react appropriately in the event of such actions in the future.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. Hasan
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex to the identical letters dated 26 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I wish to inform you that at 0230 hours on 18 April 2000 three United States military boats carrying 10 armed individuals intercepted the vessel Fu'ad 2 as it was sailing in the Khawr Abdullah channel in a seaward direction at buoy No. 9 inside Iraqi territorial waters approximately 25 kilometres north-west of Al-Bakr port and 7 kilometres off the Iraqi coast. The vessel was seized and taken to an unknown destination. The vessel is Belizean-registered and has a 10-member crew, all of them Iraqis. It had entered Khawr al-Zubayr port on 25 March 2000 and left it on 17 April 2000.

The United States authorities' entry into Iraqi territorial waters and the forcible seizure of this vessel inside those waters is a flagrant violation of the integrity of our territorial waters and an armed act of aggression against the sovereignty of Iraq. We protest against these acts of aggression and request you to intervene to prevent those authorities from entering Iraqi territorial waters in the future. We also reserve our right to react appropriately in the event of such actions in the future.

(Signed) Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq
